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TO USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA PRIORITY

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SALT

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SUBJECT: AMERICAN PRESS COVERAGE

GENEVA FOR CSCE

INFO FOR PAOS

1. HIGHLIGHTS. RECENT HEADLINES MOSTLY DOMESTIC.

SATURDAY PAPERS FRONTPAGED SOVIET OFFICIAL QUERIES US

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TRADE CURBS. TODAY'S BALTSUN FRONTPAGES WASHINGTON

AP WIT; PHOTO, SOVIET-US FLIGHT NO MERE HANDSHAKE IN SPACE; WASHPOST FRONTPAGES SPAIN ASKS US GIVE UP AIR BASE. LITTLE COMMENT.

1A. SATURDAY BALTSUN INSIDE HAD MOSCOW REPORT PREDICTING CSCE SUMMIT THIS SUMMER; WASHPOST HAS SOVIET UN OFFICIAL GIVEN HOME LEAVE; ALSO FORD WARNS CONGRESS NOT TO CUT ARMS BUDGET; WASHSTAR HAD ARMY PLOTS DEFENSE AGAINST GERM WAR. SUNDAY WASHPOST MAGAZINE HAD SHORT ARTICLE ON IKLE. MONDAY NYTIMES HAS ATHENS SEEKS MORE SA; IN US BASES; BALTSUN HAS DOUBTS PERSIST IN MOSCOW OVER VLADIVOSTOK.

2. SALT. MONDAY BALTSUN HAS LONG MOSCOW SPECIAL REPORTING SERIOUS AND WIDESPREAD QUESTIONS CONTINUE TO BE RAISED HERE ABOUT VLADIVOSTOK, AND THERE APPARENTLY IS CONSIDERABLE FEELING--INSIDE AND OUTSIDE

THE SOVIET MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT--THAT MOSCOW CONCEDED TOO MUCH, SOME SAYING THE MISSILE AND BOMBER LIMITS ARE TOO HIGH, LEADING TO A BUILDUP OF AMERICAN FORCES. STORY ADDS THE CONCEPT OF EQUAL NUMBERS OF STRATEGIC WEAPONS AND MIRVS IS SEEN BY SOME AS GIVING US A QUANTITATIVE ADVANTAGE, ALSO SOME SOVIET ARMS CONTROL SPECIALISTS FEEL THE AGREEMENT IS UNWORKABLE UNLESS NEW WAYS OF POLICING IT ARE NEGOTIATED. STORY SAYS SOVIET LEADERSHIP HAS SOUGHT TO QUIET THESE CRITICISM BY CALLING ON QUESTIONERS TO SUPPORT ITS POLICY OF DETENTE AND THE HARD-SELL CAMPAIGN HAS BEEN STEPPED UP; A QUESTIONER OF A LECTURER WHO HAD APPARENTLY HEARD ON THE VOICE OF AMERICA THE PREVIOUS EVENING THAT THE AGREEMENT WOULD MEAN A SLIGHT CUTBACK IN THE RUSSIAN STRATEGIC ARSENAL BUT A BUILDUP IN THE AMERICAN RECEIVED ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SUCH SLIGHT CHANGES BUT LECTURER DUCKED USING ANY FIGURES AND STRESSED PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL NUMBERS.

2A. SUNDAY WASHPOST HAD SHORT ARTICLE BY MICHAEL ROBBINS IN POTOMAC MAGAZINE SAYING ACDA DIRECTOR UNCLASSIFIED

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FRED IKLE IS MOST CONCERNED BY PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY AND FISSIONABLE MATERIALS STEMMING FROM THE ATOMIC ENERGY ACT OF 1954 WHICH PERMITTED REACTOR TECHNOLOGY TO BE GIVEN AWAY. IKLE FEARS AFTER INDIAN EXPLOSION THAT SMALL NATIONS AND GROUPS WILL NOT BE DETERRED, AS SUPERPOWERS HAVE BEEN IN THE PAST, AND THAT THE WORLD HAS FORGOTTEN THE HORROR OF NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST.

3. DEFENSE POLICY. SATURDAY WASHPOST GETLER REPORTED FORD WARNED CONGRESS AGAINST ANY CUTS IN PENTAGON'S PROPOSED 92.8 BILLION SPENDING PLAN IN SPEECH BEFORE MEMBERS OF RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION. FORD SAID DEFENSE REQUEST IS BASIC MINIMUM NEEDED TO ASSURE NATIONAL SECURITY AND MAINTAIN WORLDWIDE MILITARY BALANCE OF POWER AND WARNED THAT BOTH PEACE AND DETENTE ARE DEPENDENT ON A STRONG DEFENSE.

3A. SATURDAY WASHSTAR GUIDRY LOCAL REPORTED ARMY IS UNDERTAKING NEW STUDY AND REASSESSMENT OF POLICIES, TRAINING AND CAPABILITIES ON BIOLOGICAL WARFARE. STUDY IS SAID TO HAVE FOUND DEFICIENCIES IN US DEFENSE POSTURE AND TO BE AIMED TOWARD FINDING A "MORE REALISTIC AND EFFECTIVE DEFENSEIVE POSTURE" AGAINST BIOLOGICAL ATTACK.

4. CSCE. SATURDAY BALTSUN PARKS MOSCOW CITED SENIOR WESTERN DIPLOMATS THERE SAYING CSCE SUMMIT NOW APPEARS CERTAIN FOR THIS SUMMER, AS ISSUES REMAINING AT GENEVA CAN BE COMPROMISED WITHOUT MUCH DIFFICULTY, THE DIPLOMATS MENTIONING NOT ONLY RECENT PROGRESS AT GENEVA BUT THE WILSON MOSCOW VISIT AND KISSINGER-GROMYKO TALKS, ONE WESTERN EUROPEAN AMBASSADOR SAYING BRITAIN WAS THE LAST MAJOR COUNTRY HOLDING OUT AND ITS ENDORSEMENT IS ALMOST CERTAIN TO BRING OTHER CRITICS INTO LINE BEHIND A RAPID CONCLUSION. AT PRESENT WESTERN DIPLOMATS SEE A LARGE GAP ON CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES, AN INVOLVED DEBATE ON PEACEFUL BORDER CHANGES, SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT JOURNALISTS, BUT NO GREAT MATTER OF PRINCIPLE TO BE RESOLVED.

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5. SOVIET RELATIONS. SATURDAY NYTIMES GWERTZMAN WASHINGTON REPORTED THAT A SENIOR SOVIET OFFICIAL, ALKHIMOV, AT AN UNUSUAL SOVIET-AMERICAN NEWS CONFERENCE AT HOTEL MADISON SAID COLLAPSE OF THE TRADE AGREEMENT HAD RAISED QUESTIONS IN MOSCOW ABOUT THE FORD ADMINISTRATION'S ABILITY TO HONOR COMMITMENTS IN MORE COMPLICATED AREAS, AND ALKHIMOV SOUGHT TO PUT PRESSURE ON US TO REVISE THE TRADE BILL THAT LINKED TRADE BENEFITS TO A LIBERALIZED SOVIET EMIGRATION POLICY. ALKHIMOV SAID: SOMETIMES SOVIET PEOPLE ASK: CAN WE EXPECT THAT COMMITMENTS ON MORE COMPLICATED MATTERS WILL BE HONORED? GWERTZMAN SAYING HE WAS APPARENTLY REFERRING TO SALT. ACCORDING GWERTZMAN, DONALD KENDALL, CO-CHAIRMAN WITH ALKHIMOV OF THE TRADE AND ECONOMIC COUNCIL, SAID BECAUSE US

CANNOT OFFER EXPORT-IMPORT CREDITS WESTERN EUROPE AND JAPAN WILL GET THE JOBS, THIS STATEMENT BEING SUPPORTED IN SPEECH BY CASEY OF EX-IM BANK. SATURDAY WASHSTAR HAD SUMMARY OF THIS STORY.

5A. SATURDAY WASHPOST MARDER REPORTED A SOVIET DEPUTY TRADE MINISTER AND AN AMERICAN BUSINESS LEADER JOINED FORCES IN BLAMING CONGRESS FOR DENYING JOBS TO AMERICANS THROUGH BREAKDOWN OF THE TRADE AGREEMENT AND ATTEMPTING TO INDUCE CONGRESS TO CHANGE THE LEGISLATION AT A TIME WHEN US UNEMPLOYMENT IS AT 7.5 MILLION. MARDER QUOTED ALKHIMOV: WE CAME HERE NOT TO BEG FOR CREDITS, BUT THE DECISION TAKEN HERE WAS A MISTAKE AND SOONER OR LATER YOU WILL RECTIFY THAT MISTAKE. MARDER ADDED NO CRITICISM CAME FROM EITHER PRINCIPAL ABOUT KISSINGER'S ABORTED ATTEMPT TO REACH A COMPROMISE, AND MARDER QUOTED SPOKESMAN ANDERSON SAYING KISSINGER TOLD TRADE GROUP THURSDAY

THERE HAS TO BE A DIALOGUE WITH CONGRESS IN VIEW OF THE DIFFICULTIES THAT HAVE ARISEN. MARDER SAID KENDALL TOLD REPORTERS THAT WITHOUT CREDIT RESTRICTIONS TWO BILLIONS IN US GOVERNMENT CREDITS FOR SOVIET UNION COULD FINANCE SIX BILLIONS' WORTH OF SOVIET BUSINESS IN THIS COUNTRY WHICH COULD CREATE 240,000 JOBS AND THIS IS PROBABLY THE CHEAPEST FORM UNCLASSIFIED

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OF JOB GENERATION YOU CAN GET. ALKHIMOV SAID SOVIET UNION IN PAST TEN MONTHS HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED CREDITS APPROACHING SIX BILLIONS FROM FRANCE, WEST GERMANY, BRITAIN, ITALY, JAPAN. ;

5B. SATURDAY BALTSUN MILLS STRESS-D SOVIET TRADE OFFICIALS WARNED AMERICANS THEY MUST GET CONGRESS TO REMOVE ANTI-SOVIET TRADE REGULATIONS OR LOSE BUSINESS AND JOBS TO OTHER COUNTRIES, SUN HEADLINE SAYING SOVIET THREATENS TO TAKE ITS US TRADE ELSEWHERE. MILLS QUOTES ALKHIMOV: SOME PEOPLE THINK WE CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT YOUR TRADE BUT THEY DO NOT UNDERSTAND THAT TRADE IS NOT A GIFT; IT IS SOMETHING BENEFICIAL FOR BOTH SIDES. ALKHIMOV ADDED THAT ATTRACTIVE OFFERS OF MULTIMILLION DOLLAR DEALS BY AMERICAN FIRMS COULD NO BE COMPETITIVE BECAUSE OF THE LEGISLATION. ACCORDING MILLS, ALKHIMOV SAID THAT DESPITE THE TRADE FAILURE SOVIET UNION WOULD CONTINUE TO PURSUE A POLICY OF COOPERATION WITH US IN ALL AREAS INCLUDING TRADE, DOING OUR BEST TO PRESERVE TE POSITIVE THINGS THAT HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED AND GO STILL FURTHER.

5C. SATURDAY WASHPOST HAD SPECIAL FROM UNITED NATIONS REPORTING THAT A SOVIET UN EMPLOYEE, WHO WAS IDENTIFIED IN A WASHPOST STORY FEBRUARY 9 AS HAVING SOLICITED POLITICAL INFORMATION FROM AN AMERICAN STUDENT, HAS BEEN GRANTED EXTENDED HOME LEAVE BY THE WORLD ORGANIZATION STARTING SUNDAY. STORY ADDS THAT UN HAS TAKEN NO ACTION AGAINST YAKOVLEV, RUSSIAN-LANGUAGE BROADCASTER FOR UN RADIO, BUT IN PAST SOVIET EMPLOYEES ON EXTENDED HOME LEAVE HAVEN'T RETURNED AFTER REVELATION OF INVOLVEMENT IN OUTSIDE INFORMATION-GATHERING ACTIVITIES. STILL YAKOVLEV INSISTED HE WOULD BE RETURNING.

5D. MONDAY BALTSUN AP WASHINGTON REPORTS JULY US-SOVIET SPACE FLIGHT IS NOT JUST A HANDSHAKE IN THE SKY BUT A COMPLEX TECHNICAL FEAT THAT HOPEFULLY WILL LEAD TO MORE INTERNATIONAL SPACE MISSIONS, ACCORDING TO CHESTER LEE OF NASA, AMERICAN DIRECTOR OF THE PROJECT.

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6. COMMENT. SUNDAY NYTIMES EDITORIAL ;N EUROPEAN SECURITY NOTED THAT LINK BETWEEN CSCE AND MBFR HAS GRADUALLY BEEN ABANDONED BY WEST, AND THAT VIENNA TALKS ARE SEEKING MUCH STRONGER LANGUAGE AGAINST A SURPRISE ATTACK FROM A MANEUVER POSTURE THAN THAT SOUGHT IN GENEVA BUT VIENNA TALKS ARE A LONG WAY FROM BEING CONCLUDED. TIMES MAINTAINED IT WOULD BE SERIOUS MISTAKE TO CONCLUDE GENEVA TALKS AND STAGE 35-NATION SUMMIT UNLESS MOSCOW ACCEPTS SOME SIGNIFICANT LIMITATION ON ITS PREPONDERANT MILITARY FORCES ,N CENTRAL EUROPE, BECAUSE ADEQUATE WARNING OF AN ATTACK IN THE MAKING--IN TIME FOR AMERICAN REINFORCEMENTS TO CROSS THE ATLANTIC--IS THE KEY TO DEFENSE OF WESTERN EUROPE BY CONVENTIONAL ARMS. KISSINGER

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